1	2	3
4	Chhattisgarh	28
5	Gujarat	10
6	Himachal Pradesh	11
7	Haryana	22
8	Jharkhand	67
9	Karnataka	4
10	Kerala	1
11	Madhya Pradesh	158
12	Maharashtra	14
13	Manipur	4
14	Nagaland	3
15	Orissa	27
16	Punjab	8
17	Rajasthan	138
18	Tamil Nadu	6
19	Tripura	2
20	Uttar Pradesh	337
21	Uttarakhand	7
22	West Bengal	24
	TOTAL	1010

Corruption in NREGS

*67. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

SHRI N. K SINGH:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments have drawn the attention of the Central Government towards rampant corruption plaguing the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Central Government has any mechanism to check the rampant corruption plaguing the NREGS;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether middlemen are involved in providing work to beneficiaries under the scheme; and

(f) if so, the steps taken to curb involvement of middlemen?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. C.P. JOSHI): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) The mechanism to check corruption .in the implementation of NREGS includes the following:

(i) Orders dated 7.9.2009 have been issued directing all State Governments for setting up of the office of Ombudsman at district level for redressal of grievances in a time bound manner.

(ii) Wage disbursement to NREGA workers through Banks/Post Office accounts has been made mandatory to ensure proper disbursement of wages to NREGA workers. 8.13 crore bank/post office accounts have been opened so far.

(iii) The Ministry has accorded utmost importance to the organization of Social Audits by the Gram Panchayats and issued instructions to the States to make necessary arrangements for the purpose. Modifications have been made in para 13 of Schedule-I of the Act to provide for procedures on conducting social audits. The Ministry has issued instructions to the State Governments for enforcement of the new social audit provisions under NREGA.

(iv) Independent Monitoring by eminent citizens has been approved.

(v) District level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have been set up for monitoring of rural development programmes including NREGA.

(vi) The States/districts are required to submit Audit Reports & Utilisation certificates for the previous year, bank reconciliation statement, implementing agency-wise expenditure statement for each block and fund non-diversion certificate while submitting their proposal to the Centre for release of funds.

(vii) To infuse transparency and accountability in NREGA a Web enabled Management Information System (MIS) (www.nrega.nic.in) has been made operational which places all critical parameters such as job cards, muster rolls, wage payments, number of days of employment provided and works under execution online for monitoring and easy public access for information. More than 8.4.crore job cards and 2.4. crore muster rolls have been up loaded on the web site.

(e) There is no provision under the Act for the involvement of middlemen in providing work to beneficiaries.

(f) Strict instructions to States are issued from time to time to ensure compliance with the provisions of the Act. Continuous monitoring is undertaken to ensure conformity to legal provisions. Social audits are conducted. Orders have been issued to set up District Ombudsman to deal with instances of grievances and deviations from law.